

5

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An electronic lock and money control system is provided that is capable of single unit stand-alone operation, as well as expandability to a network of multiple units having one of the units operate as a centralized network controller. The network includes at least one safe provided with a control system arranged to communicate with a data input device, electronic display, connector interface and electronic lock mechanism located on the safe. The control system includes a processor programmed to control operation of the electronic lock mechanism, as well as operate as a central system controller when connected to at least one other remote safe via the connector interface to monitor and accumulate financial and operational information for each remote unit. Thus, the safe can be used in stand-alone operation, or as a central control and reporting unit for a network of interconnected safes.